



August 13, 2021

Web Announcement 2558

Attention Behavioral Health Providers Delivering Crisis Intervention (CI) Services: Prior Authorization Requirements for Emergency Requests

The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) has confirmed the requirements for submitting emergency requests for Crisis Intervention (CI) services; an emergency request is a prior authorization (PA) request submitted beyond the 90-day service limitations. An emergency request must be submitted within five (5) business days of the delivery of additional CI services, including the first date of service of the first additional occurrence. Documentation included with the PA request must contain all dates of CI services delivered within the 90-day period.

Per Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 400 - Mental Health and Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services, the service limitations for CI include up to three (3) occurrences per 90-day period; one occurrence is defined as services delivered up to four (4) hours per day for three (3) consecutive days. These services are intended to prevent the need for a higher level of care for the recipient.

The emergency request for CI must specify the additional occurrences being requested in the current 90-day period and clearly identify the medical necessity.

Providers impacted by these requirements include, but are not limited to, provider type (PT) 14 Behavioral Health Outpatient Treatment, PT 17 Special Clinics Specialty 215 Substance Abuse Agency Model (SAAM), PT 26 Psychologist and PT 82 Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Treatment.

DHCFP is in the process of updating the associated Billing Guides to reflect this requirement for emergency request of CI services.

Please direct questions to the DHCFP Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) email inbox at: BehavioralHealth@dchfp.nv.gov.